Living on your own comes with some daunting new responsibilities, like keeping your dorm or apartment clean. The Office of Residential Living is here to help you tackle the task with this guide of tips, tricks, and to-dos.

5 TIPS FOR GETTING CLEAN & STAYING CLEAN
1. Strategically place trashcans and hampers so that you aren’t tempted to throw things on the floor.
2. Spot clean every day, so that your weekly or monthly cleaning won’t be as daunting.
3. Assign different cleaning jobs to each roommate and rotate who has what job each week or month.
4. Have fun with it! Blast music while you clean and dance around so it doesn’t feel like a chore.
5. Leave reminders or a checklist somewhere easy to see - see the back for an example!

LOCATION-SPECIFIC TIPS & TRICKS

BEDROOM
- Flipping your mattress every semester makes it more comfortable to sleep on.
- Use old t-shirts to dust furniture and other items.

LIVING SPACE
- Use your vacuum to get crumbs off of fabric-covered sofas and chairs.
- Odor-reducing spray can help with hard-to-clean furniture items.
- Disinfectant wipes can be a good replacement for a feather duster.

BATHROOM
- Leave the bathroom door open between showers to reduce humidity.
- If the bathroom fan is not working, submit a work order to prevent mold and mildew from developing.

KITCHEN
- Don’t pour grease down the sink drain.
- If your freezer has ice buildup, manually defrost it by removing your food, turning the thermostat off, and allowing the ice to melt (you may want to put a towel down!).

5 ESSENTIAL & EASY-TO-USE CLEANING SUPPLIES
- Disinfectant wipes
- Odor-reducing Spray
- Glass/Window Cleaner
- Microfiber Cloths
- Magic Eraser Sponges (sponges with a rough scrubbing side are best for stickier spills!)
## Cleaning Checklist:

### Bedroom
- Clear out trash
- Pick up clothes
- Tidy desk and bookbags
- Vacuum crumbs
- Wash sheets when needed
- ________________
- ________________

### Living Space
- Vacuum/Sweep
- Clear out trash
- Odor-reducing spray
- __________________
- __________________
- __________________

### Other
- Laundry **clean lint out of dryer before use**
- Check if cleaning supply stock is low
- __________________
- __________________
- __________________

### Kitchen
- Wipe down refrigerator spills
- Throw out expired food
- Take out trash
- Clean dishes and sink
- __________________
- __________________
- __________________

### Bathroom
- Hang wet towels to dry
- Clean vents
- Clean mirror and sink
- Clean shower, toilet, and floors
- __________________
- __________________
- __________________

### More Reminders
- __________________
- __________________
- __________________
- __________________
- __________________